

TOC H JOURNAL

NEWS VIEWS AND IDEAS

2/2/87

NOVEMBER 1960



HEADQUARTERS TOC H

Opened by the Rt Hon the LORD MAYOR
Sir Edmund Stockdale, and dedicated by the
FOUNDER PADRE the Rev PB Clayton on
October 5, 1960

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NINEPENCE

Christmas Cards and Diaries

Toc H Christmas Cards in three different designs are again offered for sale this year. When ordering, please use the form printed in this issue and as supplies are limited, to prevent possible disappointment, send your order as soon as possible. The Toc H Diary for 1961 is also now on sale, and we should welcome receiving your order before the end-of-year rush.

Focus on Toc H (2)

A report on the entries received for our recent Photographic Competition will be given, together with the Judge's comments—or at least some extracts from them—in the next issue of the JOURNAL.

Tamasha No. Three

Advantage is being taken of the presence in Britain of Ruth and Alan Cowling for a 'get together' of those who served with Toc H Services Clubs in India and South-East Asia during World War II. The date fixed is Saturday, November 19, the time—from 2.30 onwards and the place—Toc H Headquarters on Tower Hill. Wives and friends will, of course, be welcomed and a postcard sent to George Bennett, Forty Four, St. John's Hill, Sevenoaks, Kent, will bring further particulars.

Music in Manchester

Another Festival of Music is being held at the Manchester Free Trade Hall, on Saturday, November 12, at 7 p.m. The artistes will include: Reginald Leopold and the Palm Court Orchestra, Elton Hayes, John Ogdon (Pianist) and, in addition to performing, Elton Hayes will compere the programme.

Ourselves

The Toc H JOURNAL is published monthly eleven times a year. The April issue is a double number and there is no August number. A subscription can commence with any issue and costs only 9s. for a complete year.
N.B.—A price concession to 7s. 6d. per dozen, post free, is made to Branches ordering a minimum of one dozen copies.

THIRTY-EIGHTH YEAR OF PUBLICATION

TOC H JOURNAL



NOVEMBER 1960

Letters and articles are welcomed and are
printed as individual points of view only

PRINCIPAL CONTENTS

In and Out	<i>Notes and Comment</i>	358
No Colour Bar	<i>S. A. Resolution</i>	360
In the City	<i>The Editor</i>	362
The Vital Chain	<i>R. J. Davies</i>	366
Life in a Mark	<i>R. G. Hayes</i>	369
A Mad Idea	<i>Paul M. Billings</i>	370
Problem Families	<i>Sidney Miller</i>	373
Two Books	<i>Science and Religion</i>	374
Far Cry, Overseas Notes	<i>Geoff Martin</i>	378
Leaflet Raid	<i>Vic Brown</i>	381
The Elder Brethren	<i>Roll of Honour</i>	383
From All Parts	<i>Area News</i>	387
'Young People Today'	<i>Ken Prideaux-Brune</i>	396

COVER PICTURE: The Lord Mayor of London, Sir Edmund Stockdale, unveils a commemorative tablet at the new Toc H Headquarters. (See article 'In the City', page 362.)

Photograph by Sport & General Agency.

Change of Address

EDITORIAL OFFICE · TOC H, 15 TRINITY SQ
LONDON EC3 · TELEPHONE ROYAL 0472



To mark the Move

MEMBERS REPRESENTING THEIR BRANCHES IN London and the Home Counties came to the City on Saturday afternoon, October 15, to give thanks in All Hallows for the successful transference of Headquarters to Tower Hill. Both before and after the Thanksgiving Service, the visiting members streamed through the new offices, finding much to interest them, not least the bound volumes on view in the 'Board Room', containing the Branch greetings from world-wide Toc H to Tubby on his seventieth birthday in 1955. The Thanksgiving Service opening on a rousing note with the singing of "Pray that Jerusalem . . .", a paraphrase of Psalm 122, and Lessons read by John Callif and Rex Calkin followed. Tubby speaking from the chancel, after the Bidding Prayer took as part of his theme the need for getting young people to know Toc H. We shall have more to say about this later.

Herbert Leggate

THE OCTOBER MEETING OF THE CENTRAL Executive was made more noteworthy than usual, not only by being held on the same day as the opening of the new Headquarters by the Lord Mayor of London, but by being followed by a very special supper. This took place at Talbot House, 42 Trinity Square, and enabled the Central Executive to pay their tribute to 'Herbert'. To everyone's regret illness prevented his wife from travelling with him from Northampton to share in receiving the tribute due to them both. Led by the Chairman, Ronald Symons, Herbert's great gifts and his contributions to the thought and life and humour of Toc H throughout thirty years were recalled by John Callif, Padre Jim Davies, and Tubby. The Hon. Treasurer, Stanley Berwick, presented a cheque for a sum of money subscribed by some of Herbert's friends.

It was far from being a sad occasion. In the September JOURNAL there was said of him: 'Without doubt we shall still receive much from Herbert' and in a recent message to the staff he himself wrote: 'Although I am no longer one of your number, I hope you will still be able to make some use of me'. Indeed we shall!

Sequel to 'Sammy'

UNDER THE TITLE "LET'S CALL HIM 'SAMMY'", a short article, written by EDWIN WARWICK for the JOURNAL of February 1952, related how members of Southgate Branch had been able to give encouragement and practical assistance to a Nigerian student in London who had struck a prolonged bad patch. Much has happened in the five years since 'Sammy' returned home to Nigeria with his honours degree faithfully in his pocket. A spell in Government service was succeeded by a stay of several months in hospital due to an accident. Then, for eighteen months he taught in a secondary school before being appointed Principal of a grammar school. Later, he successfully contested election to the Western House of Assembly and is today Parliamentary Secretary to one of the Ministers. Southgate members have good reason to be proud of the record up to date of their old friend.

World Chain of Light

THE TOC H DIARY REMINDS US THAT ON Sunday, December 11, there is 'Toc H Birthday: World Chain of Light'. The first Lamp in the Chain will be lit in Wellington, New Zealand, at 9 p.m. that day by local time. All other observances, as the world turns should be kept at the same time on the same day by local time. This anniversary of the day when the doors of Talbot House, Poperinge, were opened forty-five years ago is the occasion when members take part in this symbolic act, a token of the unity of our whole Movement. While the members in Wellington keep vigil throughout their night and day, the rest of us in turn are reminded that we are not alone but one with them, brothers and sisters within a family led by one God, who alone can help each one of us to take our share in creating a better world.

Penguin's Birthday

TWENTY-FIVE YEARS HAVE PASSED SINCE THE crypt of a disused London church housed the stock of the first Penguin Books. At that time the entire publishing trade prophesied disaster for the new venture; but, with a helpful push from Woolworths, their prophecies were soon falsified and today the output of paperbacks, with those of their competitors, numbers many millions. To celebrate their twenty-fifth birthday, Penguin Books have issued twenty-five new volumes and we would especially recommend two of them. Within *The Reader's Guide* a panel of distinguished scholars and scientists advise how and what to read, in a planned syllabus of over 1,800 titles, while the well-printed *Penguin Dictionary of Quotations* at ten shillings and sixpence is a splendid achievement and, as the old lady said of the Dictionary, the story's plot changes every time you open it.

No Colour Bar

After most careful deliberation the South African Council has passed the following resolution : "That in view of the fact that the Colour Bar is contrary to the beliefs set forth in the Main Resolution and the practice and spirit of world Toc H, it should be no longer recognised in the South African Family."

It may be difficult for some members of Toc H, living under vastly different conditions, to fully realise the high courage and tenacity of purpose called forth in overcoming the very serious obstacles. Theirs has been no easy task, nor is the position likely to become any easier in the immediate future, and we assure South African members that the world-wide Family of Toc H stands four-square with them and will support them with prayers for the successful working of this brave decision.

We are very glad to share with readers, the following leading article lifted from the September issue of the "The Compass", the journal of Toc H in Southern Africa.

Idealism and Realism

AT THE MEETING of the Council of Toc H Southern Africa held in Johannesburg on September 3 and 4, 1960, it was resolved that the resolution of a previous Council restricting membership to White persons only should be rescinded. Thus is brought about a position where a person who desires to become a member of Toc H in Southern Africa, who has passed through a time of probationship, and who has been duly proposed and seconded, may become a member regardless of his race. Thus has Toc H been true to itself and Toc H Southern Africa has taken its place beside Toc H in other parts of the world.

Ideally we have done what is right for it is wrong that principles should be violated because of expediency. Now we have conformed to our principles as set forth in the Main Resolution. What was obviously quite contrary to the spirit of our Movement has been removed. We can now truly say that there is no colour bar in Toc H. A wrong has been righted and the highest Christian principles have been upheld. But it is right that we should remember that the chief concern of Toc H is that idealism should be turned into realism. This is best done by ensuring that its members live in full accordance with its ideals and that there is ceaseless effort to attain the ideal no matter how difficult that attainment may prove to be.

Toc H is a Christian movement. Its greatest object is the reconciliation of man to man and man to God. The membership is small and never likely to be large because within its ranks there is no room for hangers-on. An honest Christian is fully aware that he often strays from the Way, but he never ceases to strive to get his feet back where they follow his Master. So, too, Toc H Southern Africa has got its feet back on the path from which it, all unwittingly, had strayed. In taking the steps it has now taken it has placed itself in line with all other Christians who have no colour bar. In fact it has placed itself alongside that small percentage of church membership that brings Christian conviction into daily living. Let us look the facts in the face and admit that a vast number of those who are reckoned as members of the Christian church accept gladly the high ideals of the Christian Gospel but make a very poor effort to live up to those ideals.

I am a member of a church that insists that all men are equal in the sight of God, that abhors the Colour Bar, and is courageous enough to protest vigorously through its leaders at every injustice and every act of segregation. But I am quite convinced that not more than five per cent of the total membership of my church are prepared to accept in their daily lives these implications of the Christian Gospel. Thus, in actual fact, the Church proclaims its ideals and only five members in a hundred are prepared to make of these ideals realities.

Lifeblood of Toc H

Finally, a word of warning. In spite of this brave decision of the Council of Toc H Southern Africa it is quite possible to continue as we were before the decision was made. To alter the present position more than a decision of the Council is required. At present, all units are uniracial and wisdom, courage, perseverance, and great enthusiasm will have to be forthcoming before even one of those units becomes multi-racial. What is more, faith and prayer will be needed too. There are units so stodgy and so self-satisfied that they have not welcomed a new member for months. Are these to be changed overnight by a resolution of Council into zealous reconcilers? Time will show. Let us not forget that the lifeblood of Toc H flows from the effort to make idealism into realism.

In the City

THE EDITOR

The withdrawal of Toc H Headquarters from 'Forty-Seven' after thirty years' occupation and the transfer to Tower Hill having been successfully accomplished, the Lord Mayor of London, Sir Edmund Stockdale, on Wednesday, October 5, honoured the Movement by visiting 15. Trinity Square to open the new Headquarters and welcome a newcomer to the City.

Lord Mayors of London, like royalty, work to a strictly observed time-table, and precisely on the stroke of eleven-thirty Sir EDMUND STOCKDALE arrived with his staff at the entrance hall of 'Fifteen' to be greeted by Sir RUPERT DE LA BERE, the Alderman of the Ward of Tower, together with the FOUNDER PADRE and RONALD SYMONS, Chairman of Toc H Central Executive. Here he unveiled a commemorative tablet, finely conceived and splendidly executed by CECIL THOMAS, before being taken up to the assembly room on the second floor.



The Lord Mayor unveils the commemorative tablet

Awaiting him were invited guests including Mr. OLAF HAMBRO and some of his friends in the City of London who contributed to Tubby's birthday gift. Room did not allow of invitations going out much more widely than to those primarily concerned in the negotiations and to the new neighbours. Amongst these were the Governor of the Tower, the Deputy

Master of the Royal Mint, the Secretary of Trinity House, the Chairman, Vice-Chairman and General Manager of the Port of London Authority, the Consul-General for Sweden, the President of the Swedish Chamber of Commerce, the Chairman of the Proprietors of Hay's Wharf, and the Trustees of Tower Hill Improvement Trust.

Members of the Central Executive, some of whom had travelled considerable distances to be present, were hosts to the gathering. The company having been seated, Tubby opened the proceedings with prayer, bidding a blessing on the new Headquarters and those who work in it and then, in this setting for the first time, led the Ceremony of Light.

In a welcoming speech, the Lord Mayor made reference to the four great neighbours in this corner of the City: All Hallows for worship, the Tower of London for history, Trinity House for guardianship together with the Port of London Authority for commerce, and continuing said:

"Today it is a delightful duty for me to welcome to their side a fifth, another good neighbour: the Headquarters of the widespread Toc H. representing fellowship, fairmindedness and service—personal, voluntary, unselfish, even self-sacrificing service.

There is much Toc H can do, I am certain, to bring together more men of all sorts and conditions, to teach them, young and old, a real purpose in life, and to spread around them the infection of the Christian spirit.

So I do indeed welcome to the City this centre of good influence, now so happily brought near to its own Guild Church and to the work of the Founder Padre of Toc H on Tower Hill. Today's event is already recorded on the tablet I have unveiled. It is a great pleasure now to declare open this new Headquarters of Toc H. I wish for you with deep respect every blessing upon your work."

In thanking the Lord Mayor for his kindly welcome and generous recognition of the work of Toc H, RONNIE SYMONS told how Toc H Headquarters had been established in the City of Westminster forty years ago, and how some two years later, Tubby being appointed Vicar of All Hallows, the church across the way became the Guild Church of Toc H.



... a tablet, finely conceived and splendidly executed.'



The Lord Mayor's speech of welcome—(l. to r.) Tubby, Sir Edmund Stockdale, Ronald Symons, Sir Rupert De la Bere, Padre Jim Davies, Stanley Berwick, and Padre Norman Motley

"Ever since", he continued, "our young men have seen visions and our old men have dreamed dreams. Our sons and daughters have prophesied that one day the Administrator and his assistants would be brought from Westminster to Tower Hill. Not, let me hasten to add, to suffer the ancient fate of those brought to the Hill; but so that the administrative centre of our movement might be one with its spiritual centre. Today those dreams have come true.

First we should like to thank those whose faith in the rightness of this move never wavered in spite of innumerable set-backs and disappointments—especially to our beloved Founder Padre. TUBBY CLAYTON, our Treasurer, STANLEY BERWICK and Sir ION HAMILTON BENN.

Then we should like to thank all those who have helped with the financing of this purchase. Exactly twenty years ago this month, All Hallows was destroyed and Tubby immediately set himself the task of rebuilding it. I am sure you have heard, my Lord Mayor, of the immense zeal and energy which he put into the task, and of the successful completion of it this year. And yet, so highly did he rate the importance of this move to Tower Hill that when, five years ago, Mr. OLAF HAMBRO and other friends in the City gave him a birthday present of £10,000 he immediately handed it over as the nucleus of our fund for the purchase of this building. Thanks to this and other generous gifts our move will entail no extra cost to the Family Purse. This building will be an asset to our membership, and to our Toc H Builders of material as well as spiritual value.

Our thanks are due also to all those who have co-operated in the practical details of buying, adapting and letting this property; to our solicitors, our surveyors, our contractors and their staffs who have done their work with such zeal and efficiency; to the former owners of the property, the General Steam Navigation Company, who seemed to take positive pleasure in selling to us, and to our tenants, the Proprietors of Hay's Wharf and the Tower Hill Improvement Trust, who seemed to take equal pleasure in becoming our tenants. Never, I feel sure, has a transaction of this kind been completed more harmoniously.

We rejoice in taking over this building with its friendly neighbourhood and magnificent views—views let us remember, which owe much to the foresight of the late Lord WAKEFIELD and to TUBBY, and to the labours of the Trustees of Tower Hill Improvement and the Corporation of the City of London."

The meeting closed with a prayer, led by the Lord Mayor's Chaplain, Padre NORMAN MOTLEY, himself a former Toc H Administrative Padre, after which the guests broke up into groups to inspect the premises and later to re-assemble at roof-top level.

On the spacious roof, apart from the impressive panorama stretching far beyond the City's boundaries, the focal point was a small compact bundle at the top of a thirty-foot flagstaff. TUBBY, an impressive and colourful figure, in scarlet robe and three-cornered hat, advanced through the company, frequently pausing to chat with old friends. On reaching the flagstaff, he tugged sharply at its halliard and a stiff breeze immediately outstretched the black-and-amber Toc H house flag to the accompaniment of rousing cheers. Meanwhile, across the way from the tower of All Hallows, came a joyful peal of bells spreading the good tidings that Toc H Headquarters were now well and truly established in the City.



... a stiff breeze outstretched the
Toc H house flag.'

The Vital Chain

Lights in their several generations

R. J. DAVIES

IN LAST MONTH'S JOURNAL writing of the Ceremony of Light, Barclay Baron wrote, "Each man will use the silence in his own way and no direction as to its proper use will, we trust, ever be issued". Barkis will, I am sure, be the first to agree that there is nothing improper in a bidding given before the taking of 'Light'—members bidden to remember especially some Elder Brother known personally to them—or someone known by repute, whose life has enriched the lives of others. Indeed, I would prefer that the silence should be personalised for me in this way by some reference to one in whom there has shone something of the light and beauty of Holiness. A name, few details of a life shortly stated—is a spur to the imagination. Such I take it was the intention of the *Liber Vitae* issued in 1928, and still used in many a Mark Chapel.

Quality and depth

Light has been given this personal quality, the silence given this depth, when before taking Light the Chairman has bidden our remembrance and has told of a life which witnessed to a truth which is timeless. Perhaps someday, someone will produce a book of brief lives of ordinary men. Holy and humble men of heart, who in their days and in many a generation left us examples by which we might be strengthened. Such a book would not be used week by week to fill the silence of remembrance and rededication but could on occasion be used to recall to an appreciation of the tradition which we seek to maintain.

Remembrance, unfortunately, has for many only the sense of sad recollection. It is a passive, negative thing. Fond maybe, but ineffectual. It has the overtones of the most joyless pagan words ever written by Isaac Watts:

*Time like an ever rolling stream
Bears all its sons away.
They fly forgotten as a dream
Fades at the opening day.*

Words used often at Christian worship but denying, none the less, the triumphant Christian hope of those made alive in Christ. Remembrance lies inevitably at the heart of historical religion. The Hebrew tribes settled in Palestine could never forget the mighty works of God. It coloured their lives, but, far from being a sentimental recollection of what they had suffered, it had a practical result in their lives. It was the basis of their very conception of mercy and justice.

Recollection and rededication

For the Christian this positive, practical element in remembrance is even more clear. Christian worship begins with remembrance—"After supper He took bread and break it, He took the cup and blessed it, and said, 'Do this in remembrance of me'". Remembering not with tragic sadness, but with thanksgiving for what God in Christ had done for men, and what we therefore should do for others. "God delivered us out of the power of darkness and translated us into the Kingdom of the Son of His love". The pattern of Christian remembrance is compounded of thankfulness, humility and grace. God loved us and sent His Son and we have received a blessing which we have not deserved; if we grasp this truth with joy He gives us the power to go on to do in His Spirit. To C H has always discerned in the ceremony of Light the elements of thanksgiving—recollection—and rededication. For my part I would dare even to add the direction that the words, 'With proud thanksgiving', should be pronounced clearly and in a cheerful voice—then after a short pause should follow the words, 'Let us remember our Elder Brethren'. Let thanksgiving always be linked with remembrance in this way by this emphatic pause.

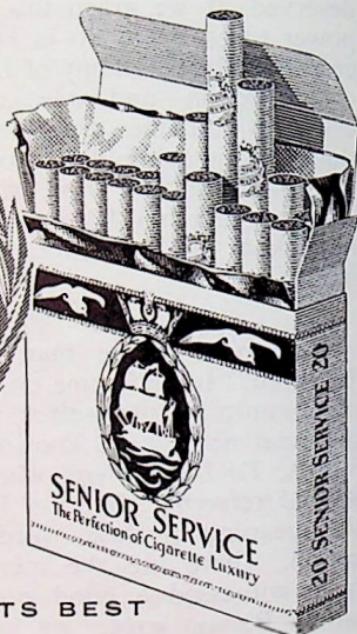
Cloud of witnesses

But some young man may say, 'Who are my Elder Brethren?' Indeed some do—fearful possibly of the unreality of committing themselves to an effort to remember what they can never have known. It is indeed true that Binyon's words, *To the Fallen*—when they were written had a very special reference, but for To C H as the years have passed the meaning of these words have acquired a wider application. There are the members of this our Family who have witnessed a good profession and these and they of whom Binyon wrote, we have rightly realised stand in the

tradition of Christian men of past ages—who were “lights of the world in their several generations”. So were Thomas, Richard, Henry and William, and John and Robert—known and unknown—a cloud of witnesses to whose kindness, courage and holiness we are all debtors. They served their day and generation—in peace and war, in city, town and village. Some were famous men, but others—many others—never sat ‘high in the congregation’ but ‘they maintained the state of the world’.

They may have been widely known throughout country or county or perhaps, unknown beyond the limits of a small village. A world famous leader—or a member of our own Toc H Branch—what is significant is not the width of their fame but the quality of their witness. God raises up his servants to shine as lights in the world.

We remember with thanksgiving and pray that the same light may shine in our own hearts: “that we also in our generation may show forth thy praises who has called us out of darkness into thy marvellous light”.



VIRGINIA TOBACCO AT ITS BEST

WELL MADE · WELL PACKED

Life In a Mark

R. G. HAYES

On Tuesday, July 5, 1960, members of Hartley Wintney Branch visited the Brothers' House, Kennington. In case this account of the proceedings should give any other impression, let it be stated at the outset that it was a highly successful occasion and much enjoyed by all.

THE EVENING'S EVENTS began with sherry. Twenty friends of Basil Mucklow, all from Hartley Wintney, joined us to drink it. We introduced ourselves and discovered that Hartley Wintney is not in Leicestershire (we must be thinking of Kirby Muxloe) but in Hampshire. One of our visitors turned out to be the village 'snob', parish-hall-keeper, newspaper correspondent, secretary of Toc H and much else. In fact, the Pooh Bah of Hartley Muckloe (sorry, Wintney: it must be the sherry). Another announced himself to be the village milkman: whereupon our Bernie Kennedy was heard to 'moo' loudly above his breath which, by this time, was smelling strongly of alcohol. A third was actually a farmer: his horse and cart, he said, had been parked in Cleaver Square.

Sherry (no, Gerry) then said something about the House and Branch. Some of it was intended for the visitors; but no doubt we regulars were meant to pick up a thing or two.

At this point, Geoffrey Kinns awoke with a start, crawled across the floor on all fours and had to be forcibly restrained on his third 'moo'.

Then Basil took over. First, he gave one of his familiar impressions of Basil Mucklow impersonating Bernard Miles, complete with Ebenezer Tabernacle. Then—surprise of the evening—Basil introduced the Kennington Gleesingers, first and only appearance. Fred Price, Gerald Hackemer (yes, Gerald Hackemer!), Terry Bryant, Old Uncle Bas Muckley and all. Unaccompanied it was, too. And highly slanderous.

If the Gleesingers were the surprise of the evening, the next event was undoubtedly the highlight. No highnote. It was none other than the Hartley Muxloe Handbell Ringers, complete with bells . . . and among them was to be seen the versatile Basil Wintney, the loudest clanger of them all.

The Bellringers had a wide repertoire, Basil's being a little wider than the rest. Passers-by stopped and stared. At Kennington Station, guards stopped their trains for the benefit of the passengers. And even across the road, the British Legion paused in the serious business of their evening. We heard tunes ranging from "Hymns, Ancient and Modern" to "Come into the Garden, Maude". The rendering of "Auld Lang Syne" with Basil playing "Pop Goes the Weasel" as a descant nearly brought down the House. Anyway, plaster was seen to fall from the ceiling.

Mrs. Benzie's refreshments were soon demolished, savouries, cream tarts and all. These farmers' boys had appetites almost equal to our own. Then, well fed and watered, our guests took their leave, some of them first insisting on inspecting the room in which their Basil slept.

Half an hour after they'd gone, a shaky Jane (the House cat) slinked out from behind the chest o' drawers on the second landing.

And at half past eight the pride of Hartley Wintney—tired but happy—made his way to the top floor front. Slowly and sleepily Basil climbed into his apple-pie bed.

A Mad Idea

PAUL M. BILLINGS

IT SEEMED a mad idea from the very start. In fact, Jobbie was against it. "Let's", said John F. of Whitfield and Guston Branch, "enter a float in the Dover Carnival". He was a member of the Dover Old Peoples' Welfare Committee on whose behalf the annual event was mainly held, and particularly interested in the Meals on Wheels section of its work. After much discussion the suggestion was put to the vote and Jobbie found himself in a minority of one. So he cast in his lot. "But, mind you", said he, tongue in cheek, "you've got to win two top prizes". Two top prizes in competition with local and national industrial entries!

A sub-committee was formed, and it was decided that the theme be Meals on Wheels depicted by a cannibal village with a missionary in the cooking pot. A haulage firm kindly agreed to lend a lorry, and the driver offered to give up part

of his leave to drive it. Obviously it could only be loaned for a few hours before the show, so everything depended on improvisation and pre-fabrication.

Gradually the 'props' were made or obtained. Handy Andy, late R.N., weaved the roof for the chief's hut formed from bales of straw; Eddie, the butcher, collected skulls and bones: a huge three-legged cooking pot mysteriously appeared. So also did spears, shields, tomahawks, tom-toms, grass skirts and other paraphernalia. Maurice prepared the side-boards, each twelve feet by four and bearing 'Meals on Wheels' in brilliant red. The tableau was cast; cherubic-



Hudson Photo Service, Dover

looking Ray as the missionary complete with topee and 'dog collar'; retired miner Harold as the cannibal chief; Eddie (most appropriately!) as the witch doctor; John A., coach painter, Steve, miner, Maurice and Ron, schoolmasters, as warriors. Plus boy scouts for tom-toms and war dancing.

Difficulties arose only to be overcome. How to stain bodies all over? Multiple chemists supplied the answer and the stain. How to make smoke without a fire? A firework firm knew the secret and presented the 'bombs'. How to simulate waving palms? Permission was obtained to cut bamboos and other greenery from the grounds of one of Sir Winston Churchill's residences.

On the eve of the show the lorry—all twenty-odd feet of it—was backed into John F.'s front garden. Next morning, all who could formed a working party—and immediately struck a snag. The lorry was all metal, even the floor. So battens had to be laid on both sides of the ledges and secured by cross pieces to take the heavy side-boards. Late into the afternoon the work went on. Then there was the dressing up, or rather undressing and make-up. Fortunately the day was warm and still—bathing slips, grass skirts and war paint would have been poor protection in a chill breeze! At last all was ready and the float set off on the three mile journey to the assembly point. Mishaps to the side-boards en route caused delays, but it arrived just in time to be judged and awarded First Prize in the Village Class.

It took one-and-a-half hours to marshal the procession of nearly one hundred floats, sixteen beauty queens, nine bands, and scores and scores of foot-slogging collectors in fancy dress. Then at long last the starting order was given, and the cavalcade of the bizarre and the beautiful wended its way through the narrow streets of the old Cinque Port. The air was vibrant with the blare of brass and the clash of cymbals, and an excited crowd, estimated at fifty thousand, cheered and laughed as occasion demanded and hurled coin to a total of well over £500 to the eager collectors.

Premier Award

The 'home straight' to the dispersal point was through Maison Dieu Road along which in days of long ago pilgrims dragged their way to the shelter of the monastic hospice. The floats of the beauty queens were instructed to turn off and proceed to the Town Hall for an official welcome by the Mayor and Carnival Committee. So also was one other float—that of the Meals on Wheels. But why? The answer soon came. A fanfare of trumpets greeted its arrival, after which a voice called out, "Would one of you come inside, please, to receive the Premier Award of the Carnival?"

Two magnificent challenge cups, one of them a foot across and of solid silver, were brought in triumph to the next Branch Meeting.

Jobbie still maintains it was a mad idea from the very start. However, his face is gradually losing its redness, and he thinks there is a moral to be drawn from it all somewhere.

Problem Families

SIDNEY MILLER

Workers in Family Service Units possess an intimate knowledge of the financial problems which engulf those they try to help. The writer is Fieldwork Organiser of the Kensington and Paddington Unit

IT IS OFTEN HARD to appreciate the insecurity of the lives of many of our families. Despite the existence of the present Welfare services, it is still possible for families to be in a position where they literally have no money even to buy a loaf of bread.

This problem arises in various ways. Sometimes it is due to the failure of the father to comply with regulations. If he is sick, he thinks he will soon be better and does not go to the doctor to obtain the necessary medical certificate. If he is unemployed, he dislikes the idea of going to the Labour Exchange, thinking he will find his own job. Failure to comply disentitles him from benefit and makes the Assistance Board reluctant to help.

Sometimes acute trouble between husband and wife leads a man to stay off work or to take refuge in drink, with consequent depletion of the family income.

An increasing problem in this area is the exorbitant rent charged for new lettings. In view of the acute shortage of accommodation families may face the alternative of homelessness or payment of rents of £4 to £5 a week for two (often rather poor) rooms. With four or five children and a wage of £10 a week, such rents impose a nearly impossible burden. When, however, the father comes out of work, they face the additional problem that the Assistance Board will probably refuse a full allowance for a rent they consider excessive, although the family find it quite impossible to obtain any cheaper accommodation.

The mothers of many of the families, trying to cope with four or five children in one or two rooms, often feel very overwhelmed by their situation. It is not surprising, therefore, that they often take an easy way out and spend their money less wisely than they might have done. Nor must the effect of poverty on their spending be overlooked. As

one mother explained: "When you have been without food for over twenty-four hours and you get your wage for the week, you can't resist buying the tempting things you see in the shops and having a good feed, even though you know you will probably be in the same position in a week's time."

If working, wages of our fathers are usually about £9 or £10 a week. (In a few cases they are considerably higher). Often these wages are unreliable as they are casual labourers. If they are lucky enough to have Local Authority flats or lettings at controlled rents, they pay £1 10s. Od. to £2 0s. Od. a week rent. With five or six children and good management, it is difficult enough to manage on an income like this. With mothers lacking any form of domestic training and fathers unwilling to accept the limitations on their own spending which a family imposes, the difficulties become acute. When the situation is aggravated by the problems outlined already, families are faced with a continual struggle with debt which they can never meet, and hardship which often involves one or two days a week with practically no food.

Two Books

SCIENCE AND RELIGION

PROFESSOR COULSON, using an economic vocabulary and quoting liberally from contemporary writers, has compiled this small book* (111 pages) to bring to the Christian simplified technical and scientific knowledge. His object being to show that the Christian has something to contribute which bears on the course of every scientific and technical advance, and further that this contribution must be based on some knowledge of the technologies which affect our every day.

The book points out that if Christian opinion had influenced the course of the first industrial revolution the standards of working conditions and housing would have been vastly improved. Life would have been nobler earlier and squalor avoided. Today, the author says, we are in the

* *Science, Technology and the Christian*, by C. A. Coulson, F.R.S.
Published by Epworth Press, 8s. 6d.

second industrial (or technological) revolution where the tempo is much accelerated and scientific advance is capable of leading us quickly either to complete destruction or, if we choose, an ennoblement of mankind through the raising of living and spiritual standards throughout the *whole* world.

Is there, then, hope for the latter? Professor Coulson gives plenty of instances of heartening signs of progress both in scientific and secular form. Toc H proposes that a mixture of men meet and a flow of ideas take place especially between the extremes (for example between the engineer and the padre). I believe that many ideas are frustrated because they cannot get through the insulation of ignorance which forms the core of many a Branch membership. It is to this core, not only in Toc H, that this book is addressed. By its simplicity and the concentration on the larger concerns it deserves to be widely read.

K.R.R.

A LAYMAN SPEAKS

This book* is written by a trusted leader of a virile lay man's movement in the Methodist Church. It is good for all churchmen to breathe the atmosphere of communions other than their own. I want to commend this book to all Toc H members who are interested in the Ecumenical Movement.

The Union of the Christian Churches when, in the providence of God, it comes must be a union in the presence of sincere differences. This book makes clear how serious some of these differences are. I commend to my Anglican friends the chapter on the Priesthood of all believers. The author quotes the late Prof. T. Manson and Dr. Leslie Weatherhead in support of his view of the place and status of an ordained ministry in the Christian church.

H.L.

**A Layman Speaks*, Douglas P. Blatherwick, Epworth Press, 6s. nett.

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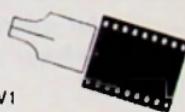
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ALL HALLOWS

TOC H H.Q.



This striking picture of the Thames viewed from the South Bank above To
tug-boats going about their business while the M.V. ROYAL SOVEREIGN ame

P.L.A.

THE TOWER



WORK AND LEISURE

PHOTOGRAPHED BY
NORMAN SMITH
LEYTONSTONE, E.11

*er Bridge, shows workmanlike
ts her load of holiday makers.*



FAR CRY

overseas notes

GEOFF MARTIN

THIRTY-TWO YEARS YOUNG

TOC H IN INDIA is thirty-two years young. This is how R. D. PAUL puts it, in an article in the June/July *Lamp*, a special number containing an excellent and full report of the celebrations in Palamcottah last June. In our restricted space it is possible to do little more than commend this number of *The Lamp* for the wealth of information and thought it contains. SAMUEL MATHAI, the new Hon. Commissioner, writes the introduction, and among other contributions the South India Regional Chairman, S. J. AUGUSTUS, summarizes "The Thinking" of the Festival. In his opening address Professor Mathai went straight to fundamentals :

It is necessary to ask ourselves whether Toc H really has a place in India or whether some of us are vainly trying to keep alive something from which the vital breath of life is gone.

Has Toc H a distinctive character and purpose ?

Is there something that Toc H can do which cannot be done equally well by some other agency ?

Is Toc H so much a British institution that it cannot flourish in conditions which are different from those obtaining in Britain ?

Can we retain the spirit and atmosphere of Toc H by adapting the institution of local needs and conditions ?

The primary purposes of Toc H are, I think, fellowship and service. In a sense these are also primary purposes of the Church and of many church-related bodies. If, therefore, we say that we shall change Toc H into a society for social service, we shall be taking away the distinctive character of Toc H which lies not simply in the fact that it provides fellowship and emphasizes job-mastery, but it does these things in a unique and distinctive way and looks back to a historic origin. It is necessary, therefore, if Toc H is to live and grow in India, that it should remain true to the spirit that animated its beginning and should not lose sight of the fact that in the midst of turmoil and tragedy in an upper room was born a quiet fellowship of men who sought to overcome the discouragements of life around and with proud thanksgiving to work for the Kingdom of God in the wills of men!

TOC H JOURNAL

The Editorial Notes by IGNATIUS ASIRVATHAM describe the journeys into the rural areas to visit the village wings:

After service on Sunday morning visits to the various villages where the Palamcottah Branch had successfully carried out experiments were arranged. By a stroke of bad luck the party which had to go to the villages nearest to Palamcottah had to give up their visit because they were unable to find any transport. One party led by the Rev. M. Chelliah (of Village Wings fame) travelled first by bus for eighteen miles and then on bicycles for six more miles to visit Kalungadi. They returned after 4 p.m. tired but happy to have had the experience. One member of the party—the one who was most eager to visit Kalungadi—could neither walk nor bicycle. Other members of the party had to carry him by turns on the bar of their bicycles. It must be admitted that after the first furlong, volunteers did not exactly leap with joy to carry this portly member.

The third party had to go only half the distance. The difficulty here was a road badly eroded and not usable by cars. At the worst part of the road, the Indian Commissioner set the example by alighting from his car and the rest of us got out too. The members in the second car with the exception of Major Rasalam (who was unable to walk) got out too. The two cars then managed to negotiate the rough patch. After some further footslogging in which the Indian Commissioner cheerfully joined, we reached the place where we met the entire village. The singing in the village Church led by the ancient catechist made up in enthusiasm what it lacked in harmony.

During this trip, the Indian Commissioner had the opportunity of seeing his Deputy (Major Rasalam) in action. One gathered from odd bits of information that the members of Palamcottah Branch had given their best in time and money towards the work in this village. To have converted the entire village and to have helped them build a new Church and new houses for all the families must have cost something.

TOC H HOUSE, SALISBURY, S. RHODESIA

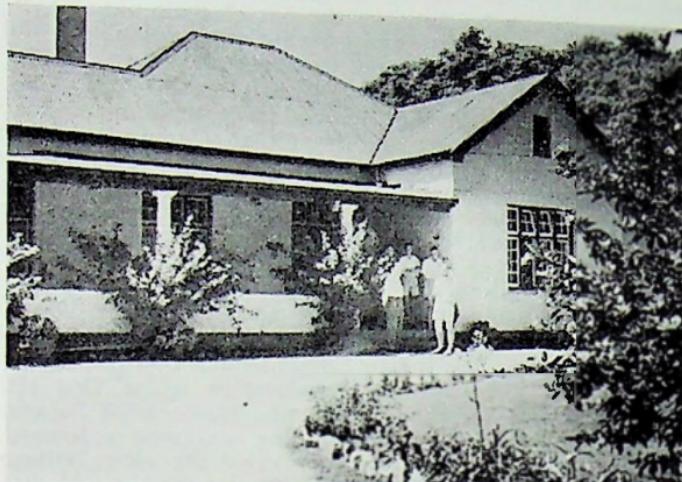
There must be many R.A.F. ex-Servicemen from the last war who trained in Southern Rhodesia and visited the Toc H Club at Baines Avenue.

The house is in a residential part of the City and, up to a few years ago, flats were few and far between. Now all the Avenues are filled with blocks of flats and Toc H is in the midst of them. Toc H Southern Africa acquired the property on one and a half stands—one half being used as a tennis court and vegetable garden-cum-clothes drying area. The house was modified and altered to cater for twenty-four residents and twenty-five table boarders.

"You enter the grounds by double gates with the Toc H sign over them and on the far side of the dining room is

the quadrangle where eight fair-sized rooms are grouped around a lawn. The ablution block and African Quarters are at the far end of the property and include a laundry, ironing room, two bathrooms, shower room, and wash basins. 'The Rabbit Hutch' is a group of five smaller bedrooms adjoining the quadrangle, so named since they have wire meshing instead of standard windows.

The Quiet Room, dedicated in July 1955, is sandwiched between four rooms and the Dining Room, and the garden extends from the frontage down the side of the boundary



Toc H House, Salisbury, Southern Rhodesia

fence to the wall of the back lane. Next to the Lounge is the Library, with large cupboards for storing the cine projector equipment. This room has a good fireplace and during the cold winter nights is a firm favourite with residents who enjoy the warmth of a log fire.

Salisbury Branch holds its weekly meetings in the Lounge on Monday nights and the local branch of Alcoholics Anonymous also use this room, among others.

Although not run on exactly the same lines as Toc H Marks in the United Kingdom, Salisbury House aims to get men interested in the Movement by getting them engaged on various jobs of service being undertaken. Many residents are settlers from the U.K. and South Africa, who have never met up with Toc H before, so are soon roped in by the older hands. House men are responsible for the daily record

recital at the General Hospital started by John Mills, who some would remember on the B.B.C. Overseas Staff until he left for Australia last year. John helped to install the first turntable and record library. At this time it was found that some of the earphones by patients' beds were faulty, so men were invited to repair them and later came on to the record playing team. Captain McMahon, aged eighty-nine, is the oldest resident and has a happy knack of keeping the young 'uns on their toes. He was out here in the 1894 Matabele Rebellion and has seen vast changes which have gone on in this part of Central Africa since those early days. Like similar houses there has been a wide variety of wardens, Bill Mason, the late Charles Biship—ex-Royal Navy, Ken Cleave, Granville Ellison—ex-Royal Navy, and now Ike Mayer. All have in their turn contributed to make a 'Home from Home' for a very large mixture of men who have resided at Number 148 Baines Avenue.

Toc H House, Salisbury, can never accommodate all the young folk who want to live in its congenial atmosphere but the Central African Executive agreed in September to go ahead with the scheme for rebuilding the house, and the work will possibly start in the New Year."

From NORMAN FLETCHER.

Leaflet Raid

VIC BROWN

FAR COTTON BRANCH was in a rut. The same eight men—or as many of us as could manage it—turned up each week. The fellowship was good, but for years no newcomers had come to share it with us. We paid our way, we did our jobs, but we knew the Branch was dying because we were getting older and were recruiting nobody.

From time to time bright ideas to remedy the situation were suggested—and filed away. We thought of dropping messages in empty houses in the neighbourhood in the hope that the new owners might be attracted. We thought of advertising in the church magazine. Finally, we considered the distribution of a leaflet to all houses in our part of the town.

We mentioned our latest idea to the Area Extension Team when they visited the District. They were unenthusiastic. They feared it could be a waste of time and money. Far better (they said) to make personal calls on likely recruits. Perhaps the Extension Team suspected that it needed only a show of opposition to make us all the more determined to go ahead.

Not that we completely ignored the voice of experience. After careful thought, however, we concluded that a leaflet, though perhaps less effective than a personal approach in individual cases, would reach a wider audience in a shorter time and with less effort. We were quite willing to try other methods if ours failed.

We believed there were two things in our favour. First, we had, in the last few years, built up some goodwill by our efforts in the neighbourhood. Secondly, although our Branch was very small, it possessed the right TOC H atmosphere, so we decided to press on.

A suitable leaflet was drafted, discussed, amended, and finally printed quite cheaply by a friendly printer. In October, 1959, over three thousand were distributed—four hundred by each member. It took each of us about three hours.

When the job was done we sat back with fingers crossed. We had invited those men who might be interested to come to a special meeting. Was it all a waste of time? Would anyone turn up?

Rays of hope

The first encouragement was a letter of apology. The writer—who was then unknown to us—said he could not come on the arranged night but would do so at a later date. The second ray of hope was the appearance of Tom one week before the arranged meeting. The idea was not going to be a complete flop after all!

There were about six fresh faces at the special meeting, but our new friends were very keen and brought others along. During the next few weeks things began to move.

Several months have passed since our "Leaflet Raid" and so far we have made nine new members and have discovered in the neighbourhood a former member of another Branch. But that is not all. Our meetings are more purposeful, our programme fuller, and at last we dare to believe that Far Cotton Branch has a future.



A newly-exposed Saxon archway in the restored church of All Hallows By-the-Tower, the Guild Church of To the H. In the Baptistry can be seen the font, hewn from rock brought from Gibraltar, with a carved cover by Grinling Gibbons

The Elder Brethren

With proud thanksgiving . . .

BISH.—On September 6, JAMES ARTHUR BISH, aged 59, a member of R.H.H.I. Branch. Elected 29.10.'47.

BRADBURN.—On August 23, ARTHUR GEORGE BRADBURN, M.P.S., F.S.M.C., J.P., aged 59, a member of Portsmouth Branch. Elected 7.2.'46.

BROWNE.—On September 2, Lt.-Col. E. W. BROWNE, aged 73, a member of Market Drayton Branch. Elected 10.5.'35.

CLARKE.—On July 28, SIDNEY HAROLD CLARKE, aged 72, a member of Hastings Branch. Elected 26.9.'50.

CLARKE.—On October 4, STANLEY ERNEST CLARKE, aged 43, a member of Broadway Branch. Elected 27.4.'59.

COLES.—On August 29, ALBERT FREDERICK COLES, aged 69, a founder member of Arnside Branch. Elected 1.3.'33.

CUTTS.—On September 26, FRANK CUTTS, aged 67, a Notts. & Derby Area member. Elected 20.9.'39.

DANE.—On September 20, HORACE LESLIE DANE, aged 55, a member of Gorleston Branch. Elected 3.12.'56.

DAVIES.—On September 18, after a short illness, WILLIAM JOHN DAVIES, aged 66, a member of Bargoed Branch and the Rhymney Valley District Bursar. Elected 25.3.'43.

EVANS.—On September 10, STANLEY RICHARD EVANS, a Beds. & Herts. Area member. Elected 29.1.'26.

FERGUSON.—On August 23, JAMES FERGUSON, aged 73, a founder member of Longtown Branch. Elected 16.3.'49.

FRASER.—On August 30, WILLIAM FRASER, aged 64, a member of Elgin Branch. Elected 1.11.'35.

HUNTER.—In September, Major W. A. HUNTER, M.C., ('Skipper'), a founder member of Accrington Branch.

JACKSON.—On July 30, WARWICK MARSHALL JACKSON, aged 78, a member of Seaford Branch. Elected 6.11.'38.

MCKENZIE.—On September 3, ANDREW MCKENZIE, A.R.I.A.S., aged 74, a founder member of Ayr Branch. Elected 28.1.'59.

STACEY.—On July 26, WILLIAM JOHN STACEY, aged 61, the Treasurer of the Barrow-on-Humber Branch. Elected 30.7.'40.

THOMPSON.—On September 1, the Rev. GEORGE BATHURST THOMPSON, aged 81, a member of Tower Hill Branch, formerly of Singapore group. Elected 24.3.'53.

TOWNSEND.—On July 30, the Rev. Prebendary RICHARD WILLIAM TOWNSEND, aged 72, a member of Hendon Branch. Elected 25.1.'52.

TUVEY.—On September 28, WILLIAM GEORGE TUVEY, aged 60, a member of R.H.H.I. Branch, previously a member of Hammersmith Branch. Elected 1.4.'24.

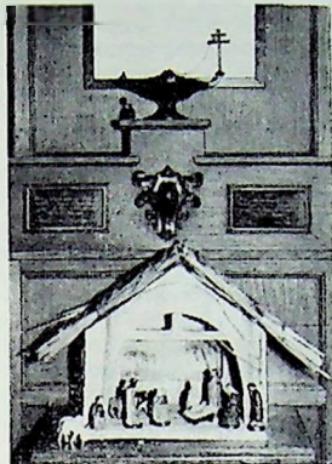
WOODBRIDGE.—On August 22, ALFRED WOODBRIDGE, aged 64, a member of Bournemouth Branch. Elected 1.1.'31.

WRIGHT.—On August 9, WILLIAM WRIGHT, aged 55, a member of Blackridge Branch. Elected 28.1.'57.

Toc H Christmas Cards

Three different designs have again been prepared and to avoid possible disappointment you are asked to send in your order without delay as there is a heavy demand for this year's cards.

CARD 'A'—An upright card, size $3\frac{3}{4}'' \times 5''$, with the Lamp design die-stamped in Blue and Gold and greeting printed inside. Complete with envelopes. 5s. 6d. per dozen post free.



CARD 'C'—A striking design by Armour Chelu, reproduced in three colours, with greeting inside. Size $3'' \times 6\frac{3}{8}''$, complete with envelopes, 7s. 6d. per dozen, post free.

CARD 'B'—This card shows the Lamp and Christmas Crib on the Upper Landing at Talbot House, Poperinge. Size $3\frac{3}{4}'' \times 4\frac{5}{8}''$ complete with envelopes, 5s. 6d. per dozen, post free



Toc H Diaries

Supplies of the 1961 Diary are now available for your use. Contents includes much useful information, indispensable to all members, 4s. 3d., or fitted with pencil, 4s. 9d. post free.

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copies, 1961 Toc H Diary
fitted with pencil @ 4s. 9d. each

Enclosed is Cheque/Postal Order value £ : s. d.

(Signed)

From all parts

direct from areas



LAKELAND

from Joe Wills

The annual Area training week-end was well attended at LANGDALE. The weather was glorious and the theme "Where do we go from here?" roused some useful discussion. This mainly concerned the need for better mixture, an improvement in all hostmanship, a wider view of service and the need for extension. The LANGDALE CAMP took place as usual in July in very nice weather.

Some units, notably KIRKBY, LONSDALE and ARNSIDE are either running or planning to run, hospital car services in their locality. MORCAMBE carries on its usual work with hospitals and the blind while, during the summer, the Branch has been sending a considerable number of old people for successive weeks holiday to Southport. The FURNESS District hopes for further activity in building the holiday home for handicapped children at Haverigg, while URSWICK hopes to increase its activities at a local school for similarly underprivileged children. The WEST CUMBERLAND District is planning a regular form of weekly outings for old people at a Maryport home, and WORKINGTON maintains its connection with the children's home at Allonley. CARLISLE Branch ran a very useful outing for adult spastics to Penrith and Ullswater, where with the assistance of some PENRITH members, all were entertained to tea at the cricket pavilion. A cricket match at Edenside raised funds for future work of this kind.

NOTTS. & DERBY

from Les Wheatley

An interesting project is developing in NOTTINGHAM in connection with the Telephone Samaritans, the scheme which originated in London to help would-be suicides. After a visit to a hospital, Stan Marriot of ARNOLD and WOODTHORPE Branch, was so shocked by the number of attempted suicides brought in during the night that he began to make enquiries. As a result a committee was set up to carry out the investigations and leaders of Churches, the Salvation Army, the Police were all interviewed and their support obtained. The Rev. Chad Varah, the founder of the London scheme, has been seen and it is proposed to call a meeting at which he will speak. Already a telephone number has been allocated to the scheme here. Arthur Frymann, a member and recently appointed a magistrate is taking a leading part. The great need, which has yet to be met, is to find someone in a position to become the administrator. There is no money in the kitty and it will be quite a full-time job so it won't be too easy to find the key man or woman. Nevertheless hopes run high of establishing the scheme without too much delay.

OXFORD & THAMES VALLEY

from Tim Tobias
The highlight of the month has surely been the visit of thirteen members of the Area to Dor Knap. Such a wonderful time was had by them that we are sure they will be real ambassadors in their Branches and that a far greater number will join us next year, when we fit in with Yorkshire for a week.

Heartiest congratulations to all those who worked so hard in so many different ways to make the contribution of the Area to the B.B.C. Appeal so well worth while.

SOUTH WESTERN

In spite of rain, floods, bridges washed away and trains held up, a very large number of members managed to get to the Area Conference at Westward Ho!. Rain outside could not damp high spirited fellowship inside and we had a most enjoyable and stimulating week-end. John Goss made us think very hard and very deeply about "Growing up in Modern Society", and Alec Churcher gave us liberally of his practical wisdom and wide experience on the subject of "Christian Responsibility in an Irresponsible World". Our thanks go to both speakers for so ably leading our thoughts and discussion, to which we owe so much of the success of the Conference.



mises for and been instrumental in starting a Youth Club in the village, while SEATON has made successful efforts to restart Scouts and Cubs.

SALTASH now run a fortnightly book-stall for second-hand books in the main street of the Borough. Besides providing welcome additions to Branch funds it is enabling the Branch to make many friends.

EAST LONDON

Co-operation between the HIGHAM'S PARK Branch and the local Boy Scouts' Association led to twenty-four boys from the East End of London spending their first week-end in the country. The Branch undertook to foot the bill and Senior Scouts ran the camp at their permanent site in Epping Forest.

A one-day conference on Keynote lines was well supported by men and women members from the S.E. ESSEX and THURROCK Districts. A session was held on the "Problems of Loneliness" and another on the "Potentialities of Toc H". The conference concluded with a short brains-trust dealing with questions relevant to the life and work of Toc H.

from Gilbert Francis

In LYME BAY District both WINSHAM and SEATON Branches have been busy with young people. WINSHAM have obtained pre-

from Jim Green



Staffordshire Sentinel Newspapers Ltd.

The Deputy Lord Mayor of Stoke-on-Trent, Sir Harold Clowes, with members of the organising committee at the opening of Sneyd Green Branch's second annual flower show for which there was a near 100 per cent. increase in exhibits.

SUSSEX

from Cyril Cattell

A successful day has just been enjoyed by many members and friends in the Area at the Area Family Gathering held at Hove. In all ways it was a family affair—and we were delighted to have the children there with us. The idea was to provide a varied programme for the afternoon and evening with 'something for everyone'. Those who organised it can feel well satisfied that this end was achieved. Starting with fun and games, during which the Area Chairman ('Doc' Mitchell), amongst others received a prize, we then went on to a showing of the Toc H film *A Lamp Burns*. This was well received by members and guests alike. Tea, thanks to the members of Hove W.A. was now ready for us. A high-light of the day was the Forum which comprised two padres, two Toc H members and two 'men-in-the-street', the latter being neither associated with any church, nor with Toc H. The purpose of the questions put to the team was to try and see what, if any, relationship really existed between the three categories mentioned. . . . Disinterestedness on the part of many clergy towards Toc H is largely our fault through keeping them in ignorance, to their cost and ours, of the true purpose of the Movement. The ball is in our court. . . . Many 'men-in-the-street' believe the Church is ineffective to-day because Christians are not prepared to make up their minds, and stand by their convictions whatever the cost, on big moral issues such as racial discrimination and the Hydrogen bomb . . . and so on. The evening finished with a concert and after home-going prayers we made our separate ways to all corners of the Area. All in all a very good day.

WEST MIDLANDS

from G. R. Purdy

Although officially retired Padre Herbert Leggate gave an indication of what the future of such status might hold by the inspiring talk given to the members and friends of the MARCHES District when they held their District Rededication and Guest night at Presteigne. There was a full house in spite of one of the worst rain storms of the year, and a few men present from KINGTON have since had their first meeting and have decided to form a group of Toc H in that town.

Herbert was also the Leader at the Area Team week-end held at Garey Hall, Selly Oak, and his talks on the fundamentals of Toc H were, as expected, real 'Leggate vintage' and those who were privileged to be present were made very aware of the continuing purpose of the movement. R. D. Paul, late Commissioner, Toc H in India and a lecturer for the next year at Selly Oak Colleges, joined us for the week-end and, on the Sunday morning, talked of the Church in South India, and Toc H at work there.

CLAREGATE group are now established in their quarters at Stockwellend, Tettenhall, and exploring the possibilities in one of the growing suburbs of Wolverhampton.

WEST YORKSHIRE

from Ron Smith

MIRFIELD's effort for the World Refugee Fund realised £60 from a gift stall erected on the main street in Mirfield and this amount was the highest handed in from efforts made by organisations in Mirfield. The Branch Chairman, John Taylor has returned from America, where he served as a Clayton Volunteer.

NEWSOME, given Branch status in May, has eighteen members and a lively Executive. Members have been busy tidying up the Parish Churchyard. A competition has been organised for the designing of a Branch Banner.

WORLILLEY-DE-LEEDS took 113 old people in five coaches through the Yorkshire Dales.

LEEDS District held a Garden Party in the grounds of Brotherton House, Leeds in aid of the Cheshire Home at Spofforth and the World Refugee Fund. Requests for voluntary contributions were generously filled by local stores and shops. The hoped-for take of £50 was exceeded by £29. Glorious weather and the highly enjoyable performances of entertainers—dancing troupe, singers, magician, invested the proceedings with an air of cheerful lightheartedness. Consequently the great number of patrons spent their money with fewer misgivings than might have been the case. After this most encouraging result, which fully justified the work of the Toc H District Team, Branches and Women's Association, who contributed time and effort to its conception and maturity, it might prove to become an annual event. Certainly we at Brotherton House, hope so.

A large contingent from West Yorkshire went to Bridlington for the annual Conference held in the Town Hall by kind permission of the Mayor and Corporation. The principal speakers were; the Rt. Hon. Richard Wood, M.P., Minister of Power; Jack Harrison, and Mrs. Richardson, East Riding Youth Officer. The Toc H film *A Lamp Burns* and SHIPLEY Branch's production *All Roads Lead*, with its plea for Church Unity, were shown.



Northgate Studio, Louth

A corner of the Louth Branch stand at the 'Leisure in Louth' Exhibition

LINCOLNSHIRE

from George Lee

Through participating locally in a 'Leisure in Louth' Exhibition, the LOUTH Branch attracted large numbers to the well-planned Toc H stand, and met a dozen men who were keen to learn more about the Movement.

Although the Area has not taken any great part in the "Keynote" operation, LOUTH carried their project one stage further recently in an operation effected with military precision yet bursting with pleasure and goodwill. Over 200 elderly folk were taken on a tour of the Lincolnshire Wolds, and after tea enjoyed the illuminations at Cleethorpes. Forty-four cars were used in addition to two coaches and an ambulance. In all, ninety-three helpers were involved, for, in addition to local members no less than five other Branches of Toc H Women's Association, together with members of Rotary Round Table, the St. John Ambulance Brigade, a nurse from the County Hospital, the Police and many other friends assisted. Once again, the effort proved the tremendous advantages to be gained from careful planning. This truth has been emphasized in the first of the series of Training Evenings in the Area led by Alec Churcher on 'The Life and Work of a Branch'.

SURREY

from Tony Waterfield

Units in WEYBRIDGE and WOKING are considering the possibility of jointly helping to start a new group in BYFLEET at the end of this year. The names of any likely contacts and ex-members in the district will be welcomed by A. G. Waterfield, 6a Mount Pleasant, Weybridge, Surrey.

SCOTLAND

from Reg Stewart

During the latter part of August and the first fortnight of September, we had a visit from Sydney Swain, of Wolverton Branch in Buckinghamshire, who in his capacity as Enroller of Toc H Builders was making his first trip to Scotland. Despite the fact that this was a completely new field for him, Sydney's visit proved a greater success than had originally been considered possible.

A fleeting visit was paid by Dr. Samuel Mathai, recently appointed Commissioner for Toc H in India, on his way to St. Andrews to attend the World Council of Churches. Owing to the very short time at his disposal, it was most unfortunate that Dr. Samuel was unable to meet and address members in Scotland.

At a meeting of the Scottish Executive on September 3 a decision was taken to hold a series of Training Conferences, based on Districts, so as to reduce costs, and, it is hoped, to increase Branch representation, in preference to holding a National meeting on the lines of the Jobmastery Conference held earlier this year at Gean House. The first of these District Training Conferences is to be held in the Borders within the near future.

NORTH & WEST LONDON

from Mayne Elson

The football commentary scheme begun by CHELSEA continues to expand. Arrangements have now been completed to cover the home games of Fulham F.C. in addition to those of Chelsea F.C., which means that a First Division game is put over to the hospitals every Saturday instead of fortnightly. Some FULHAM members have come in to reinforce the panel of commentators. Royal Marsden and Brompton Hospitals have been linked up making a total of seven hospitals in all.

POTTERS BAR members have been experimenting with a Club for 'unclubbable' young people. It sounds like a contradiction in terms, but the job is well worth attempting.

The WIMBLEDON Toc H Mobile Cinema Unit showed eight feature films last season to a total audience of 5,205 in hospitals and old people's homes. The unit is made up of twenty projectionists and thirty-four car drivers and has been able to give performances on seventeen evenings a month.

CONEY HALL recently took a large party of physically handicapped children from the Shaftesbury Society's local school and hospital to Chessington Zoo. Some of the children travelled in two coaches, one of them equipped on ambulance lines, and others went in private cars; in addition there were two vans to carry wheel chairs.

Members of KENNINGTON had an enjoyable evening out when they took a party of disabled men from the Church Army's Rehabilitation Centre at Brixton to the Moscow State Circus at Wembley. This was the eleventh outing arranged by the Branch for these men—the first, however, to a circus. HARTLEY WINNEY hired a coach for an evening in July and visited THE BROTHERS' HOUSE where they were entertained by—and entertained—the Marksmen. (See article 'Life in a Mark' elsewhere in this issue.)

Many aspects of Toc H came under discussion at a joint conference of DOVER ROAD and THAMESIDE Districts. They included an alteration of our pattern in order to attract new and younger members, the steps necessary to form a Youth Club and the desirability or otherwise of mixed units.



At work on the Toch hospital commentary box at Norwich City's ground. It is now under the new stand and gives a much better view of both ends of the play.

Eastern Evening News

HOSPITAL FOOTBALL COMMENTARIES



Broadcasters on duty in the commentary box at Bristol are: seated (left) Bill Boon and Roy de Lancy, and standing (left) Roy Wilton and John Eamer.

Bristol Evening Post

KENT

from Cyril Cattell

BROADSTAIRS & ST. PETERS are to be congratulated on their splendid effort, supported by other Thanet Branches, in again running a boys' camp during the summer. Fifteen lads from London—some of whom had never had a holiday or seen the sea—thoroughly enjoyed themselves during their stay in camp. Similar excellent work was again undertaken by TUNBRIDGE WELLS District when they ran the long-established Isle of Thorns Camp in Ashdown Forest. Congratulations to our newest Branch, a Joint one at RUSTHALL (Tunbridge Wells) on being recognised. We send them all good wishes for the future. SEAL (Sevenoaks) started up their new session by entertaining the Over 60's. "Best float of the whole show" was how the judges at Dover Carnival described the entry by WHITFIELD & GUSTON. Their float made the crowd's blood curdle as they cooked Ray Bent—the missionary—in their jungle scene entitled "Meals on Wheels". In all this they were aided and abetted by Whitfield Scouts. BIRCHINGTON have been busy again with their minstrel show, this time entertaining patients at Princess Mary's Rehabilitation Hospital.

BEDS. & HERTS

from Ray Fables

Two efficient tie-ups with other Areas have been effected during the last month, both with parties of elderly folk. Firstly a party from NORTHAMPTON paid a visit to NORTH BUCKS, where WOLVERTON roped in their lady friends to give them tea at the half-way stage of their tour. On another Saturday, WATFORD District had their annual Old Peoples' outing when forty residents of two Old Peoples' Homes were taken by cars—over half of which were driven by friends amongst the four Branches—for a country ride before linking with RUISLIP who provided the tea and entertainment. This time the weather kept miraculously fine and an enjoyable time was had by all.



Members of Leighton Buzzard Branch with the book-stall with which they raise funds by the sale of second-hand books on Saturday mornings.

Beds. and Bucks. Observer

Anyone passing through STONY STRATFORD during recent evenings may have seen strange figures carrying desks behind 'The Bull'. There is no need to worry—it is just TOC H members preparing their store of firewood for the winter 'chopping season', the material having been kindly given by the school that has just moved its quarters.

The select few are busily buying fireworks for the Area's first ever party to Dor Knap over Guy Fawkes week-end, let's hope we don't burn the place down in our enthusiasm!



T. Longworth, Holmes Chapel

Eric Nichol, a founder member of Holmes Chapel Branch, being presented with a blazer badge on his departure to take up an appointment in Tasmania

from Fred Brooker

SOUTHERN

September 21 to 25 were red letter days for Toc H folk in the Channel Islands, because of the first visit of the Administrator to the Branches in the Islands. The visit started with an informal dinner, given in honour of John and Mary Callf, by the members of the District Team in GUERNSEY. On the following two days there was a Guest Night, and a 'get together' for the men's Branches in the Island. On Saturday the scene moved to JERSEY, where John was guest at an informal lunch given by the members of the men's Branches. In the evening we had a meal together at the ST. JOHN HELIER Branch Headquarters, followed by an informal meeting to hear some Area News and a talk given by John. There was a short Service on Sunday morning followed by a question session and a meeting of the District Team. The afternoon was devoted to a meeting in the delightful grounds of Rozel Manor. In the evening members and friends again gathered together to hear John preach at the evening Service in the Georgetown Methodist Church.

Once again this year members of our NORTH BADDESLEY Branch have been responsible for arranging a holiday for members of the North Wilts. Invalid Tricycle Association. A mixed party were accommodated for a week in the Branch Rooms, and expeditions and visits were arranged for every day of the week. These included a trip to Cowes, in the Isle of Wight, where they were entertained by members of Toc H in the Island. Southampton Docks were also visited and a trip was made into the New Forest to meet members of the LYNDHURST Branch.

The new group at ALTON is making steady progress, and are hoping to make many new friends during the winter months. A new group has also started in Southampton and is known as THE AVENUE, SOUTHAMPTON group. As we go to press, news comes that the tickets for the concert, to be given by Max Jaffa at the Winter Garden in Bournemouth, are selling well. This concert has been organised by the SOUTH WESSEX District Team, together with the willing assistance of several General Members in the Bournemouth area.

FROM ALL PARTS

'Young People Today'

KEN PRIDEAUX-BRUNE

THAT MOST readable of Government publications, the report of the Albemarle Committee, has created a new awareness of the importance of the Youth Service. It is, therefore, appropriate that a booklet should be printed, outlining the activities of the national voluntary youth organisations. A well-illustrated booklet, entitled *Young People Today*, has been produced by the Standing Conference of National Voluntary Youth Organisations.

The story it has to tell is an exciting one. It describes the variety of youth organisations, from the small village youth club to the national uniformed organisations, like the Boy Scouts or the Boys' Brigade, and the astonishing multiplicity of activities which are open to young people. Adventurous activities, such as flying, gliding, climbing or canoeing; hobbies, such as carpentry, photography, cookery, or even archaeology; games of all kinds; drama and music. There is a section outlining the ways in which teenagers are introduced to the idea of 'service', and there are sections describing the efforts of the youth organisations to prepare their members for adult life, and to give them a religious faith that is vital and relevant to the modern world.

The abiding impression left by the booklet, however, is of the need for more adults who are prepared to devote some portion of their spare time to the service of youth, and of the variety of ways in which they can help. "Youth organisations do not run on sympathy nor yet on applause. They run because people are ready to shoulder the continuing responsibility of leadership and administration which the work demands."

It is to be hoped that this booklet will be widely read, and that it will inspire some readers to volunteer to help. Copies can be obtained direct from Toc H Publications Dept., 1s. 6d. plus 4d. postage.

SOUTH OCKENDON HOSPITAL
(1000 beds for mentally sub-normal)
Near Romford and Grays, Essex

Applications are invited from young men and women, from the age of 18 years, of suitable educational standard, for training in mental deficiency nursing at a hospital approved by the General Nursing Council as a training school. This is a very modern hospital with a new hospital unit with operating theatre, x-ray department, physiotherapy and other ancillaries. Modern and well equipped training school to be opened shortly and good accommodation in comfortable nurses' home. There are facilities at the hospital for all religious

denominations. The hospital is situated in pleasant grounds, close to town amenities in two nearby centres and easy access to London. Social and recreational amenities.

Training normally lasts 3 years for Student Nurses with allowances on entry into training of £335 at age 18, £350 at age 19, £370 at age 20, less £130 for board, lodging and uniform if resident. At age 21 or over, training allowances are between £430 to £470 per annum less £158 for board, etc. £40 proficiency allowance payable on passing preliminary examination and £50 on passing final examination. Excellent opportunities for promotion after training.

Enquiries invited and applications to Matron and Chief Male Nurse.

Journal Smalls

Small Advertisements must be received (with remittance) by the first day of the month preceding publication. The charge is 6d. a word (minimum 6s.). Editorial Office: Toc H, 15 Trinity Square, London, E.C.3.

LEYTONSTONE HOUSE HOSPITAL

(366 beds for mentally sub-normal)

High Road, London, E.11.

Applications are invited from young women, from the age of 18 years, of suitable educational standard, for training in mental deficiency nursing at a hospital approved by the General Nursing Council as a training school.

Training normally lasts 3 years for Student Nurses with allowances on entry into training of £335 at age 18, £350 at age 19, £370 at age 20, less £130 for board, lodging and uniform if resident. At age 21 or over, training allowances are between £430 to £470 per annum less £158 for board, etc. £40 proficiency allowance payable on passing preliminary examination and £50 on passing final examination. Excellent opportunities for promotion after training.

Enquiries invited and applications to Matron.

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TULIP BULBS of good quality are now on sale by Pinchbeck Branch at 25s. per 100 or 3s. 6d. per doz. in the following colours: White, Pink, Yellow, Red, Rose, Mixed. Also mixed daffodil bulbs at 32s. 6d. per 100 or 5s. per doz. Please send your order to the Treasurer: Ernest W. Packer, "Fenlands," Spalding Road, Pinchbeck, Spalding, Lincs., and enclose 2s. extra on orders under £1 for postage. All profits to Family Purse.

STAMPS. Gifts of Foreign Stamps and Great Britain (4d. values and over) are always welcomed by Toc H Stamps Appeal. Please note change of address—C. H. Wake, 475 Roxborough Avenue, Rockliffe, Ottawa, Canada. Mark Packets 'Free Gift'.

BARGAIN BAZAAR PARCELS—

85s. Christmas Cards, OR 144 6d. Toys, etc.—50s. each! See WHOLESALE LISTS for full range Christmas Cards (Special Boxes for General Sales), Toys, Games, Stationery, Jewellery, Pens, Christmas Decorations, Crackers, etc.:—J. Thomas & Son, Woodhouse, Games Road, Cockfosters, Herts.

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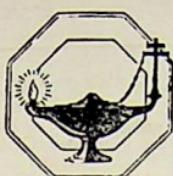


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